Amendments to the Claims

These claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Method of coding a ~~coded~~ data stream, ~~the coded data stream comprising at least one high level data packet having partitions of data (56, 62, 68) requiring different protection rates,~~ comprising ~~the step of~~:

providing the data stream including a high level data packet having at least two partitions of data with different code rates; and

inserting a partition detector ~~(50)~~ between the two ~~such~~ partitions~~, in order~~ to provide ~~guidance~~ information for coding the two partitions with the different ~~protection~~ code rates ~~(78)~~.

2. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ generating a partition detector ~~(80)~~.

3. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, where the partition detector includes a trigger ~~52; 58; 64)~~ and a code rate field ~~(54; 60; 66)~~.

4. (original) Method according to claim 3, wherein the code rate field gives information regarding the code rates to be used for the two partitions.

5. (currently amended) Method according to claim 4, wherein the code rate field is ~~a unique~~ an identifier of the transition from a first code rate to be associated with ~~a first~~ one of the partitions to a second code rate associated with ~~the second~~ an other of the partitions.

6. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ generating low-level data packets including the high-level data packet as payload ~~(86)~~.

7. (currently amended) Method according to claim 6, further comprising ~~the step of~~ coding the low-level data packets with different code rates ~~(R1, R2, R3)~~ determined by the partition detector ~~(88)~~.

8. (original) Method according to claim 7, wherein the partition detectors are not coded.

9. (currently amended) Method according to claim 7, further comprising ~~the step of~~ sending the coded low-level data packets to a receiving device ~~(90)~~.

10. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, ~~wherein there are~~ further comprising at least three partitions ~~and a~~ such that the partition detector is inserted ~~between~~ after every partition.

11. (currently amended) Method of decoding a coded data stream, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving ~~a~~ the coded data stream including at least one low level data packet having at least two partitions ~~(56, 62, 68)~~ coded with different code rates ~~(92)~~;

extracting information from ~~at least one~~ a partition detector ~~(52)~~ inserted between the two partitions in the low level data packet ~~(93)~~; and

decoding the ~~different~~ two partitions ~~with~~ using the different code rates ~~(R1, R2, R3)~~ based upon code rate information extracted from the partition detector ~~(94)~~.

12. (currently amended) Method according to claim 11, further comprising ~~the further step of~~ forming at least one high level data packet out of the decoded low level data packets ~~(96)~~.

13. (currently amended) Method according to claim 12, further comprising ~~the step of~~ removing the inserted partition detector from the data stream~~, (100)~~.

14. (currently amended) Method according to claim 13, further comprising ~~the further step of~~ supplying the data stream ~~comprising~~ including at least one high level data packet to a source decoder ~~(102)~~.

15. (currently amended) A device for coding a coded data stream ~~having at least one high level data packet including partitions (56, 62, 68) of da ta requiring different protection rates (R1, R2, R3)~~, comprising:

at least one high level data packet including at least two partitions of data with different code rates;

a partition detector inserter ~~(108)~~ for inserting ~~said~~ a partition detector between the two ~~such~~ partitions~~, in order~~ to provide ~~guidance~~ information for coding the two partitions with the different ~~protection~~ code rates.

16. (currently amended) A device for decoding a coded data stream having at least two low level data packets including partitions ~~(56, 62, 68)~~ of data having different ~~protection~~ code rates ~~(R1, R2, R3)~~, comprising:

a controller ~~(120)~~ for reading partition detector information ~~(50)~~ inserted between the two

~~such~~ partitions~~,~~; and

a decoder ~~(118)~~ for decoding the two partitions at ~~two~~ the different ~~protection~~ code rates obtained from the partition detector.

17. (currently amended) A signal ~~format~~ structure for use in transmitting a coded data stream, comprising:

a first partition ~~(56)~~ coded with a first code rate ~~(R1)~~;

a partition detector; ~~(50)~~ and

a second partition ~~(60)~~ coded with a second code rate, ~~(R2); said~~ the partition detector indicating ~~both~~ the first and the second code rates.

18. (currently amended) A storage medium on which ~~a~~ the signal ~~forma~~ structure as claimed in claim 17 has been stored.